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United States General Accounting Office
Washington, DC 20548

May 30, 2001

The Honorable John D. Dingell
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Dingell:

We received your letter, dated May 2, 2001, jointly signed by Ranking Minority Member Edward J. Markey, Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, requesting the General Accounting Office to conduct a follow-up study on unpaid arbitration awards.

GAO has accepted your request as work that is within the scope of our authority. In reviewing the resource requirements to fully respond to your request, however, and considering the backlog of requests we have from congressional committees, it is difficult to specify at this time when GAO can start this work. We anticipate being able to start in March of next year. We have assigned your request to Mr. Tom McCool, Managing Director for Financial Markets and Community Investment. Mr. McCool, or a member of his team will contact your office to discuss options to help meet your needs.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. McCool on (202) 512-8678 or me on (202) 512-4507.

Sincerely yours,

Doris E.L. Cannon
Assistant Director
Congressional Relations